

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJ: AMSPEC GRANT FOR ALVIN TOFFLER

REF: BUCHAREST 3492; STATE 218423

UNCLASSIFIED PARAS 1 THROUGH 6 AND 8:

1. ALTHOUGH POST HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TOFFLER OPENING SERIES ON "U.S. IN THE YEAR 2000", WE ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT HIM IN MAY OR JUNE, 1976 WITH PREFERENCE FOR MAY 17-30 PERIOD.
2. POST CONCURS WITH DEPARTMENT EXPLANATION OF DIALOGUE WITH LOCAL AUDIENCE AND WHILE NUMBERS INVOLVED IN FUTUROLOGY ARE SMALL THEY ARE INFLUENTIAL AND ABLE AND CAN ORGANIZE A USEFUL OFF-PREMISES PROGRAM APART FROM THE "2000" LECTURE.
3. WE THINK THREE WORKING DAYS WILL BE SUFFICIENT. IF TOFFLER ARRIVED ON MAY 17, MUCH OF THAT DAY WOULD BE SPENT IN FULL EMBASSY BRIEFING ESSENTIAL PRIOR TO FACING LOCAL AUDIENCES AND PROBABLY A SOCIAL EVENT. MAY 18-20 PROGRAM WOULD INVOLVE ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH ROMANIAN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENTISTS AND OTHERS IN FUTUROLOGY FIELD.

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ONE OR TWO FORMAL LECTURES WOULD BE GIVEN IN AMERICAN LIBRARY

ON ASPECTS OF "THE U.S. IN THE YEAR 2000" THEME. IN ADDITION THERE WOULD BE SOCIAL EVENTS HOSTED BY EMBASSY OFFICIALS INVOLVING ROMANIAN EXPERTS AND IN ALL PROBABILITY, INTERVIEWS WITH THE MEDIA. TOFFLER COULD DEPART MAY 21 FOR NEXT EASTERN EUROPEAN POST.

4. POST DELIGHTED TO HAVE MRS. TOFFLER PARTICIPATE FULLY IN PROGRAM.

5. POST WILL ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE INTERVIEWS WITH OTHER FUTUROLOGISTS THOUGH WE SUGGEST THIS CAN BEST BE ACCOMPLISHED IN INFORMAL SOCIAL SESSIONS. VISITS TO FACTORIES WILL ALSO BE EXPLORED. NO "UNDERGROUND" FUTUROLOGISTS EXIST HERE SO THAT IS NOT A PROGRAM POSSIBILITY.

6. POST WILL CHECK TO SEE WHAT REVIEWS APPEARED ON "FUTURE SHOCK".

7. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: RE "FUTURE SHOCK" BOOK, WHICH HAS ALREADY APPEARED IN BEST-SELLING ROMANIAN TRANSLATION, IT HAS BEEN CONTROVERSIAL, FASCINATING NOT ONLY FOR SPECIALISTS BUT WIDER POPULAR AUDIENCE. HARDER-LINE PARTY IDEOLOGISTS HAVE BEEN SKEPTICAL, EVEN NEGATIVE, INSINUATING RCP PARTY PROGRAM IS ALL THE FUTUROLOGY ROMANIA NEEDS, WHILE OTHERS SEE TOFFLER'S WORK AS USEFUL IN ILLUSTRATING NEED FOR OPEN-OPTION PLANNING, RATIONAL METHODOLOGY, AND NON-DOGMATIC APPROACHES TOWARD FUTURE. A TV DEBATE BETWEEN PROTAGONISTS OF THE TWO SCHOOLS EARLY THIS YEAR WAS STIMULATING BUT INCONCLUSIVE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

8. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
WE REITERATE POINTS MADE IN BUCHAREST 3492 THAT TOFFLER WOULD BE AN ARTICULATE, AND STIMULATING LECTURER AND BELIEVE OTHER AREA POSTS MIGHT WELCOME THE CHANCE TO PROGRAM HIM. PLEASE ADVISE AS HIS ITINERARY BECOMES FIRM. END UNCLASSIFIED.
BARNES

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